

Middle Team Newsletter – T1

Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

A warm welcome back to Term 1.

As always, we are excited about the activities we have planned for students this term. The teachers are looking forward to their new classes. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing our students make further progress this term.

We also extend a warm welcome to our new Middle Team teacher; Mrs Manju Naran in Room 6.



Term 1 Topics

Our main topic for this term will focus on **Social Studies – Global Society (Big Planet-Small World)**. We have an exciting trip to **Long Bay** organised in Weeks 5 & 7. Students will investigate the impact of humans upon the seashore and how we can be Coastal, Biodiversity Detectives.

In addition, as part of our literacy programme, students will identify and apply the key features of Recount and Letter Writing.

The teachers will be growing students' capabilities to be active learners and will be looking to display examples of their work on our Middle Team Wiki:

<https://spsmiddleteam.wikispaces.com/>

In week 3, 15 February we have a Meet the Teacher evening. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and have your child share and explain their learning over the first few weeks.

Our numeracy strand will focus on measurement with students being involved in a Middle Team maths tumble. Students will continue developing number strategies through problem solving tasks.

Our Wednesday Summer sports programme begins with small ball skills such as tennis, cricket, volleyball and T-ball. Children will also have the opportunity to take part in Jump Jam. We would ask that your child wear the appropriate clothing for these lessons.

We would encourage you to continue to support weekly home learning and to help students learn basic facts and times tables at home. Home learning may also include students working on StudyLadder and other online activities that your child's teacher has set up. Home Learning will come home on Monday and is due back on Friday. Good attendance will also be necessary as the teachers continue to assess and monitor your child's learning. Mrs Dewar would like to extend an invitation for all parents and students to visit her blog: <http://esolsps.blogspot.co.nz/?m=1> where we share our Cultural Diversity.

This term Sunnynook Primary School celebrates its 50 Year Jubilee. We are calling on all past pupils and staff to come and celebrate with us on the afternoon of Friday 16th March, 2018. Please contact the school to register your interest. Phone 09 410 6534 or email rebeccam@sunnynookschool.nz

Clubs and Activities

Students can continue to enjoy a range of extra curricular clubs and activities at school. We look forward to seeing them participate and commit to a range of activities. Students are reminded through weekly announcements about these activities so that they know when and where they take place.

School Newsletters

Please check for any letters that come home and on class notice boards. This term we will be asking for parent helpers with our trip to Long Bay Regional Park. There will also be permission slips to be signed and returned. This year's activity fee will include the cost of this trip. School newsletters are e-mailed home on Thursdays and are also available on the school website: <http://sunnynook.school.nz>

Important dates for Middle School this term

- **Tuesday 6 February – Waitangi Day – school closed**
- **Thursday 15 February – Meet the Teacher evening 5pm – 6pm**
- **Monday 26 February – PAT Testing – Year 4**
- **Thursday 1 March – Long Bay Trip – Rooms 18 & 19**
- **Saturday 3 March – PTA Camp Out**
- **Wednesday 14 March – Long Bay Trip – Rooms 5 & 6**
- **Thursday 15 March – Long Bay Trip – Rooms 20 & 7**
- **Friday 16 March – Sunnynook Primary School 50 Year Jubilee**
- **Monday 19 March – GLOSS/JAM Testing – Year 4 & 3**
- **Wednesday 21 March – Class Photos**
- **Thursday 29 March – Swimming starts Room 7**
- **Friday 30 March – Tuesday 3 April – Easter Break**
- **Wednesday/Thursday 4/5 April – Parent Teacher Interviews**
- **Friday 13 April – School ends (Mufti Day)**

The school day begins at 8.50am and it is important that your child is at school on time. Children are welcome to be in the classrooms or playground from 8.30am. If your child regularly arrives before 8.30am it may be best that they are enrolled in the SKIDS before school programme. School finishes at 3pm. If you are late picking up your child, they will be waiting in the office area. Parents arriving to pick up students for appointments must report to the office, who will call the student from their room. If your child is absent, please phone the office.

Hats are compulsory for Term 1. Our school field will be in use so there are plenty of opportunities for students to play outdoors.

Families are reminded to pay their activity fee so that students can participate in Middle Team trips and activities planned for this term. We appreciate your support with the prompt payment of fees.

We look forward to a successful and settled term 1.

Kind regards

Rodger Darkens

Team Leader on behalf of the Middle School Teachers:

Kelley Olsen, Monica Duffield, Shona Branton, Manju Naran and Karen Swinton.

